Appl. No. 09/687,157
Amdt. dated January 31, 2005

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for distributing a program sent by a content distributor to a user location, the method comprising:

receiving a command from the content distributor to store the program at the user location**, wherein the program comprises at least one of a video program or an audio program**;

processing the command **sent from a remote location with respect to the user location**;

receiving the program at the user location;

storing the program at the user location in response to at least the processing the command; and

detecting a user action related to the program after storage of the program.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the program comprises at least one of a commercial, an infomercial, a show, **or** ~~and~~ a movie.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Original)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the user location comprises a set top box.

5.   (Original)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the storing the program comprises

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storing the program on a mass storage device associated with a set top box that is associated with the user location.

6.   (Original)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

determining a subset of programs from a linear schedule of programs associated with the content distributor; and

transmitting the subset to the user location.

7.   (Original)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the processing the command comprises determining usage rules related to the program.

8.   (Currently Amended) A method for distributing a program sent by a content distributor to a user location, the method comprising:

commanding the user location to store the program from the content distributor **without a user associated with the user location specifically requesting the program, wherein:**

the program is stored proximate to the user location, and

the content distributor is remotely-located from the user location; and

sending the program to the user location for storage before a user **specifically** requests the program, **wherein the program comprises at least one of a video program or an audio program.**

9.   (Previously Presented)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, further comprising a step of determining a subset of programs from a larger set of programs, wherein the program is included in the subset.

10.   (Original)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, further comprising determining usage rules for the program.

11.   (Original)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, further comprising sending usage rules for the program to the user location.

12.   (Original)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, wherein the program is unmentioned in a linear schedule.

13.   (Original)   The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 8, further comprising broadcasting the program to a plurality of user locations.

14.   (Currently Amended) A distribution program product for distributing a program sent by a content distributor to a user location, the distribution program product comprising:

code for receiving a command from the content distributor to store the program at the user location, **wherein the program comprises at least one of a video program or an audio program**;

code for processing the command **sent from a remote location with respect to the user location**;

code for receiving the program at the user location;

code for storing the program at the user location in response to at least the processing the command;

code for detecting a user request for the program after storage of the program; and

a computer-readable medium for storing the codes.

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15.　　(Currently Amended) The distribution program product for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 14, wherein the program comprises at least one of a commercial, an infomercial, a reoccurring show, **or** ~~and~~ a movie.

16.　　(Canceled)

17.　　(Original)　　The distribution program product for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 14, wherein the user location comprises a set top box.

18.　　(Original)　　The distribution program product for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 14, wherein the code for storing the program comprises code for storing the program on a mass storage device associated with a set top box that is associated with the user location.

19.　　(Original)　　The distribution program product for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 14, further comprising:

code for determining a subset of programs from a linear schedule of programs associated with the content distributor; and

code for transmitting the subset to the user location.

20.　　(Original)　　The distribution program product for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 14, wherein the code for processing the command comprises code for determining usage rules related to the program.

21.　　(New) The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein the content distributor sends the program from a remote point with respect to the user location.

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22.   (New) The method for distributing the program sent by the content distributor to the user location as recited in claim 1, wherein:

the program is broadcast to a plurality of user locations,

the broadcast is coextensive-in-time for the plurality of user locations, and

the user location is part of the plurality of user locations.